

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Previously presented) An anti-irritant composition comprising:
  - (a) two or more water-soluble, organic salts of zinc selected from the group consisting of zinc acetate, zinc butyrate, zinc citrate, zinc gluconate, zinc glycerate, zinc glycolate, zinc formate, zinc lactate, zinc picolinate, zinc propionate, zinc tartrate and zinc undecylenate, wherein said water-soluble, organic salts of zinc are present in said anti-irritant composition at concentrations between 0.1% and 2% (weight/weight),
  - (b) one or more antimicrobial compounds selected from the group consisting of chlorhexidine gluconate, benzalkonium chloride, and combinations thereof wherein each of the one or more antimicrobial compounds are present at a concentration of between 0.05% - 4% (weight/weight),
  - (c) 0.05% - 4% (weight/weight) inicroquat,
  - (d) water,
  - (e) 60% - 95% ethanol, and
  - (f) one or more agent selected from the group consisting of a gelling agent, a thickening agent, a hydrophilic or hydrophobic polymer, an emulsifying agent, and an emollient, wherein the composition exhibits a synergistic preservative effect against bacteria.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Original) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 1, wherein the concentration of water is between 10% and 80% (weight/weight).
4. (Original) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 1, wherein the concentration of the emollient is between 0.3% and 10.0% (weight/weight).
5. (Previously presented) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 1, wherein the emollient is selected from the group consisting of PEG 20 almond glycerides, Probutyl DB-10, Glucam P-20, Glucam E-10, Glucam P-10, Glucam E-20, Glucam P-20 distearate, glycerin, propylene glycol, cetyl acetate, acetylated lanolin alcohol, cetyl ether, myristyl ether, hydroxylated milk glycerides, polyquaternium compounds, copolymers of dimethyl dialyl ammonium chloride and acrylic acid, dipropylene glycol methyl ethers, polypropylene glycol

ethers, silicon polymers, petrolatum, mineral oil, lanolin, olive oil, cocoa butter, shea butter, cetyl lactate, lauryl lactate, isopropyl lanolate, 2-ethylhexyl salicylate, cetyl myristate, oleyl myristate, oleyl stearate, oleyl oleate, hexyl laurate, isohexyl laurate, and combinations thereof.

6. (Original) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 1, wherein the concentration of the gelling or thickening agent is between 0.05% and 10.0% (weight/weight).

7. (Previously presented) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 6, wherein the gelling and/or thickening agent is selected from the group consisting of cationic hydroxy ethyl cellulose, crothix, crodomol, zinc stearate, behenyl alcohol, and combinations thereof.

8. (Original) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 1 which further comprises between 0.1% and 1.0% (weight/weight) silicone polymer.

9. (Previously presented) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 8, wherein the silicone polymer is selected from a group consisting of polydimethylsiloxane polymer, dimethiconol fluid in dimethicone, cyclomethicone and dimethicone copoly, silicone glycol, and combinations thereof.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Previously presented) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 1, further comprising an antimicrobial compound is selected from the group consisting of iodopropynylbutyl carbamate, phenoxyethanol, polymyxin B, neomycin, triclosan, parachlorometaxylene, octoxyglycerin, and combinations thereof.

12. (Original) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 1 which further comprises a stabilizing agent at a concentration of between 0.1% and 1.0% (weight/weight).

13. (Previously presented) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 12, wherein the stabilizing agent is selected from the group consisting of antioxidants, surfactants, and combinations thereof.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Original) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 13, wherein the surfactant is selected from the group consisting of incromide or a silicone-based surfactant.

16.-30. (Canceled).

31. (Previously presented) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 13, wherein the antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of vitamin C, vitamin E, and combinations thereof.

32. (Previously presented) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 1, which further comprises one or more natural or synthetic chemicals selected from the group consisting of an almond oil, ylang-ylang oil, neroli oil, sandalwood oil, frankincense oil, peppermint oil, lavender oil, jasmine absolute, geranium oil bourbon, spearmint oil, clove oil, lemongrass oil, cedarwood oil, balsam oils, tangerine oil, l-citronellol,  $\alpha$ -amylcinnamaldehyde, lylal, geraniol, hydroxycitronellal, isoeugenol, eugenol, eucalypus oil, eucalyptol, lemon oil, linalool, citral, and combinations thereof.

33. - 34. (Canceled).

35. (Currently amended) An anti-irritant composition comprising:

(a) two or more water-soluble, organic salts of zinc selected from the group consisting of zinc acetate, zinc butyrate, zinc citrate, zinc gluconate, zinc glycerate, zinc glycolate, zinc formate, zinc lactate, zinc picolinate, zinc propionate, zinc tartrate and zinc undecylenate, wherein said water-soluble, organic salts of zinc are present in said anti-irritant composition at concentrations between 0.1% and 2% (weight/weight),

(b) one or more ~~an~~ anti-microbial agents, wherein each of the one or more antimicrobial compounds are present at a concentration of between 0.05% and 4% (weight/weight),

(c) 0.05% - 4% (weight/weight) incroquat,

(d) water,

(e) ethanol, and

(f) one or more agents selected from the group consisting of a gelling agent, a thickening agent, a hydrophilic or hydrophobic polymer, an emulsifying agent, and an emollient.

36. (Previously presented) The anti-irritant composition of Claim 1, which further comprises farnesol.